

# **DRAFT CONSTITUTION FOR 2022 AGM**

## **CONSTITUTION OF TUDOR BRIDGE CLUB (Chipping Sodbury)**

### **1. NAME**

The Club shall be called Tudor Bridge Club (Chipping Sodbury), hereinafter referred to as 'the Club'.

### **2. OBJECTS**

The objects of the Club shall be to facilitate the teaching and playing of Duplicate Bridge in a friendly and welcoming atmosphere.

### **3. AFFILIATIONS**

Unless decided otherwise by a General Meeting, the Club will be affiliated to the Gloucester County Bridge Association (GCBA) and to the English Bridge Union (EBU).

### **4. MEMBERSHIP**

- 4.1 Subject to 4.6 and 4.7 below membership shall be open to all Bridge players and those wishing to learn the game.
- 4.2 Application for membership shall be made to the Secretary on such form as may be prescribed by the Committee, and accompanied by the due proportion of the annual subscription (see 4.3).
- 4.3 New members joining between 1<sup>st</sup> June and 30<sup>th</sup> November shall pay one half of the annual subscription. New members joining in December shall pay the full subscription for the following year.
- 4.4 Temporary membership shall be available for any single period of six months on payment of two thirds of the annual subscription.
- 4.5 All attendees of the Club's beginners' lessons are granted free, associate, membership of the Club in the year they attend classes (See 4.6)
- 4.6 Associate and temporary members shall enjoy all the rights of membership except that they may not vote at an Annual or Special General Meeting, nor stand for election to the Committee.
- 4.7 A member shall cease to be a member of the club immediately if expelled from the club under the provisions of clause 14, or if his/her resignation in writing is delivered to the Secretary.
- 4.8 A member whose subscription has not been paid by 31<sup>st</sup> January shall cease to be a member.

- 4.9 A former member of the Club who wishes to rejoin as a member may do so, and will need to submit the application paperwork afresh, unless the committee decides otherwise.
- 4.10 All members are deemed to have accepted the regulations of this constitution and the rules and codes of conduct adopted by the Club
- 4.11 The Committee will keep a register of members which will include details of their name, address and contact details and shall only forward these details to the EBU with each member's permission. Details will not be forwarded to any other organisation, on any basis
- 4.12 So long as the Club retains EBU affiliation, members of the Club are automatically enrolled as members of the English Bridge Union and all shall abide by its Bye Laws.
- 4.13 The Committee may propose that a current or former member of the Club shall be given Honorary Life Membership in reward for long and/or exceptional service to the Club. Such a proposal would be subject to confirmation by vote at an Annual or Special General Meeting.

## **5. OFFICERS**

- 5.1 The Officers of the Club shall be the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.
- 5.2 No member of the Club shall simultaneously hold more than one of the Offices of the Club.
- 5.3 Each of the Officers of the Club shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Club, and shall retire annually at the ensuing Annual General Meeting, but shall be eligible for re-election.
- 5.4 In the event of a vacancy arising during the year, for any office of the Club, the Committee shall choose one of their number to fill such vacancy until the ensuing Annual General Meeting.

## **6. COMMITTEE**

- 6.1 The Committee of the Club shall consist of the Officers of the Club, together with up to four other members of the Club, who shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Club, and shall retire annually at the ensuing Annual General Meeting, but shall be eligible for re-election
- 6.2 The Committee may from time to time co-opt further members of the Club to serve on the Committee until the ensuing Annual General Meeting, whether to fill a vacancy arising, or as additional members, except that the total number of members of the Committee (including Officers) shall at no time exceed ten. Co-opted members shall be entitled to participate fully in the proceedings of the Committee.
- 6.3 The Committee shall meet at least four times per annum. A quorum for a committee meeting shall be three members of the committee, including at least one of the Officers.

- 6.4 The Committee may from time to time appoint sub-committees to undertake, on its behalf, such aspects of the administration of the Club as it considers fit. Members of such sub- committees may include members of the Club who are not members of the Committee, but they must be chaired by a member of the Committee.
- 6.5 The Committee shall make a report to each Annual General Meeting of the Club concerning the affairs of the Club since the previous Annual General Meeting.

## **7. MANAGEMENT**

- 7.1 The affairs of the Club shall be managed by the Committee, and the Committee shall have power to determine any issue arising in connection with the affairs of the Club which is not specifically provided for in this Constitution.
- 7.2 The Committee may from time to time formulate and publish such rules as it thinks expedient for the efficient and harmonious running of the Club (but in the case of any conflict between such rules and this Constitution, the Constitution shall prevail).
- 7.3 Any issue of policy determined by the Committee or any rules published by the Committee may be varied by a resolution of members at a General Meeting of the Club, provided that such resolution is not in conflict with this Constitution and is not retrospective in application.
- 7.4 In the event of such variation being made, the policy or rules (as the case may be) shall not be further varied by the Committee in a manner inconsistent with the resolution.

## **8. GENERAL MEETINGS**

- 8.1 An Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held in each year no later than four months after the end of the financial year.
- 8.2 A Special General Meeting of the Club shall be convened by the Committee, if a request for such a meeting (stating the reason for it) is signed by at least ten members of the Club or 40% of the total membership (if that is less). The request should be delivered to the Secretary and such meeting should take place within one month of the receipt of such request.
- 8.3 A Special General Meeting of the Club may be convened by the Committee on its own initiative at any time.
- 8.4 All General Meetings of the Club shall be held at a normal playing location of the Club unless circumstances arise which render this impracticable.
- 8.5 The Chair, if present, shall chair all General Meetings of the Club, or in his/her absence the Vice-Chair shall chair the meeting. In the absence of both, the Committee members present shall nominate one of their number to chair.

- 8.6 Notice of all General Meetings of the Club shall be given to all members of the Club no later than two weeks prior to the date fixed for the meeting.
- 8.7 Any member may propose a motion to be discussed at a General Meeting provided that written notice of the proposed motion is delivered to the Secretary no later than two weeks prior to the date fixed for the meeting. The proposed motion should be seconded before delivery to the Secretary.
- 8.8 The Chair of the meeting may permit discussion of other business at a General Meeting if she/he thinks fit.
- 8.9 A quorum at General Meetings of the Club shall be ten members present in person, or a number equal to 40% of the current membership, whichever is less.
- 8.10 If fifteen minutes after the time fixed for a General Meeting of the Club no quorum shall be present, the meeting shall be adjourned to a new date (of which the like notice shall be given to members as was required to be given for the meeting which has been adjourned). In the case of a General Meeting which has been adjourned due to the lack of a quorum (but not of a meeting adjourned for any other reason) such number of members as are actually present at the adjourned meeting shall constitute a quorum.
- 8.11 Voting at General Meetings of the Club shall be by show of hands, and in the event of parity of voting the Chair of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

## **9. NOTICES**

- 9.1. Notices of any Special General Meeting of the Club, and of an Annual General Meeting shall be posted on the Club's website and/or given to members by e mail to the last address of each member notified to the Secretary.
- 9.3. Notices of any non routine matters to be brought to the attention of members shall be made on the Club's website at least one week before the meeting and/or by announcement at two consecutive playing sessions.

## **10. NOMINATIONS**

- 10.1 Nominations for the posts of Officers or Committee members shall be in writing, and shall be signed by a proposer and a seconder, both of whom shall be members of the Club, and also by the person nominated.
- 10.2 Nominations must reach the Secretary no later than one week prior to the date fixed for the Annual General Meeting.

## **11. SUBSCRIPTIONS and FEES**

- 11.1 Each member of the Club shall pay an annual subscription, the basic amount of which for the time being shall be set at an Annual General Meeting of the Club. Subscriptions shall be due for payment during the month of January each year in respect of the year to the following 31st December. Any member whose subscription remains unpaid after the due date shall pay table money at the rate applicable to visitors until his/her subscription has been paid in full.
- 11.2 Each member of the Club, and each guest and visitor, shall pay table money on each occasion when they play at the Club, the basic amounts of which for the time being shall be decided at an Annual General Meeting of the Club.
- 11.3 The Committee may determine variations on the basic amounts of subscriptions and table money for members, guests and visitors in different circumstances.

## **12. ACCOUNTS**

- 12.1 The Committee shall arrange for accounts to be prepared in respect of the financial affairs of the Club for each year ending on 31st December.
- 12.2 The accounts for each year shall be presented to the Annual General Meeting of the Club for approval.

## **13. GUESTS and VISITORS**

- 13.1 With the exception of the Club's Birthday Party, The Malcolm Hayward competition and the Christmas Party (events normally subsidised by the Club), guests and visitors may be permitted to play at the club at any time. A member shall be responsible for their guest's behaviour and table money.
- 13.2 The Committee may, from time to time, place a limit on the number of times a non member (whether a guest or visitor) may play at the club without being required to apply for membership.
- 13.3 No person who has been refused membership of the club may play as a guest or visitor.

## **14. MEMBERS' BEHAVIOUR AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE**

- 14.1 Each member of the Club shall be required, whether at or away from the bridge table, to conform to the standards of fair play, courtesy and personal deportment prescribed by the Bye Laws and regulations for the time being of the EBU, including the fundamental principles set out in the EBU's "Best Behaviour at Bridge".

- 14.2 The Club shall have the powers and the procedures for the enforcement of the requirement in clause 14.1. They are set out in the Schedule of the Constitution, and shall stand as part of the Constitution and be subject to the same provisions of the Constitution for its amendment.

## **15. ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

- 15.1 No alterations shall be made to this constitution except at a General Meeting of the Club
- 15.2 In order for a resolution to alter this constitution to have effect, at least two-thirds of the votes cast on the resolution must be in favour.

## **16. WINDING-UP**

- 16.1 In the event that the membership of the club should fall below twenty and remain below that number for three months, the Committee shall meet to determine the future of the club. Should the committee decide that there is little possibility of the membership rising above twenty they shall call a Special General Meeting to discuss the proposal that the club should be wound up.
- 16.2 In order for a resolution that the Club shall be wound up to have effect at least two-thirds of the votes cast on the resolution must be in favour, and, in addition, the number of votes cast in favour of the resolution must exceed one-half of the number of members of the Club entitled to attend and vote at the General Meeting at which the resolution is put.
- 16.3 If a resolution that the Club shall be wound up is effectively passed, the Committee shall be responsible for winding up the affairs of the Club, and unless the winding up has been initiated with a view to amalgamating the Club with some other club (in which case any surplus assets and funds may be transferred to such other club) any surplus assets and funds shall be transferred to such organisations as the Committee may think fit.